

**Amendments to the Specification:**

**Page 2, lines 10-13, replace the paragraph with:**

Fig. 2 shows the system construction used in a case where erasure correction is applied. The area surrounded by a broken line is generally provided as the function of an HDC 206 (hard disk controller).

**Pages 10 and 11, from page 10, line 25 to page 11, line 8, replace the paragraph with:**

Fig. 4 shows the construction of the error detection/correction system of the present invention. The area surrounded by a broken line in Fig. 4 is provided as a function of the HDC 408. The read head 106 repeatedly reads certain sectors on the magnetic disk a plurality of times, and outputs a read analog waveform. The R/W channel 401 restores the input waveform to a plurality of NRZ data. Then, the data memory 402 used for erasure spot checking stores these NRZ data. Furthermore, among these data, one or more NRZ data re stored by a buffer memory 403.

**Page 13, first full paragraph, lines 8 to 17, replace the paragraph with:**

Furthermore, since the error correction of the present invention requires that data be ~~written~~read a plurality of times, this error correction requires more time than error detection and correction using an ordinary Reed-Solomon code. Accordingly, when the present invention is applied to an {actual} product, it is envisioned that {the method of the present invention} will be performed in cases where erasure correction or error detection and correction using general Reed-Solomon code is first performed, and it proves impossible to accomplish error detection and correction by these methods.

**Page 20, first full paragraph, lines 3 to 14, replace the paragraph with:**

Next, the write data in a case where the NRZ data B 806 and NRZ data C 808 are input into the R/W channel 810 are respectively designated as write data B 811 and write data C 812. Furthermore, the write current waveforms that are used when the write data B 811 and write data C 812 are sent to the R/W/ amplifier 813 are respectively designated as a write current waveform B 814 and write current waveform C 815. Moreover, the analog waveforms that are obtained when the magnetization inversion formed by the writing of the data on the magnetic disk 816 by means of these write current

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waveforms is read by the read head are respectively designated as an analog read waveform B 817 and analog read waveform C 818.